

THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Summer 2009

Volume 17, Number 2



Wood 42

Featured in this issue

- "Super Dies" of the Colonial Series
- Virginia Coin Finds
- Unusual Rhode Island Ship Medal
- More on Wood 42
- Eagle Stamp & Coin Co.
- Historical Review – Counterfeit Coppers
- New Condor Token Discovery
- Cut Spanish Silver
- Discussion of Crude American (?) Counterfeits
- Unusual French Colonial
- Dave Bowers Helps C4 Increase Membership



WE HAVE BEEN SELLING THE WORLD'S FINEST COIN AND PAPER MONEY COLLECTIONS FOR OVER SEVEN DECADES



CALL TODAY AND SPEAK TO SCOTT MITCHELL, JOHN PACK, OR VICKEN YEGPARIAN TO INCLUDE YOUR COLONIAL COIN, CURRENCY OR MEDAL COLLECTION IN ONE OF OUR SPECTACULAR UPCOMING AUCTIONS.

VISIT [STACKS.COM](http://stacks.com) TO VIEW OUR AUCTION SCHEDULE, BROWSE OUR ON-LINE AUCTION CATALOGUES AND INVENTORY SELECTIONS, OR SEARCH OUR AUCTION ARCHIVES.

123 West 57th Street • New York, NY 10019 • 800-566-2580 • Fax 212-245-5018
P.O. Box 1804 • Wolfeboro, NH 03894 • 866-811-1804 • Fax 603-569-3875

Stack's

Auctions • Appraisals • Retail • Since 1935

www.stacks.com • email: auction@stacks.com

THE OLDEST AND MOST PRESTIGIOUS RARE COIN FIRM IN AMERICA

The C4 Newsletter

A quarterly publication of

The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Inc.

Web address: www.colonialcoins.org

Volume 17, Number 2

C4 National Officers:

President	Rav Williams	Secretary:	Frank Steimle
	njaywms@optonline.net		fsteimlc@aol.com
Vice-President	David L. Palmer	Past-President:	Dennis Wierzba
	Palmers4@erols.com		sscrosby@comcast.net
Treasurer:	Charlie Rohrer		
	RohrerC@cadmus.com		

C4 Regional Vice Presidents:

Region 1 (New England, Quebec, Canadian MT, Maritimes)	Jim Skalbe	Region 5 (OK, TX, NM, AZ, ID, WY, CO, UT, NV, Mexico)	Craig McDonald
			cmcdon0923@aol.com
Region 2 (NY, NJ, PA, MD, DE, DC)	Dr. David Menchell	Region 6 (CA, HI)	Jim Goudge
	dmenchell@aol.com		jimgoudge@aol.com
Region 3 (VA, WV, NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, MS, LA, TN, AR, PR)	Stan Stephens	Region 7 (OR, WA, BC, AK)	Buell Ish
	sstephens@hsc.wvu.edu		buell@vectrafitness.com
Region 4 (OH, IN, IL, MI, WI, KY, IA, ND, SD, MN, KS, MO, NE, Ontario, Manitoba)	Jack Howes		
	jackhowes@yahoo.com		

Spring 2009

C4 Newsletter Editor:

Sydney F. Martin, Editor: sfmartin5@comcast.net
Associate Editor: Roger Siboni; rogersiboni@gmail.com

*Articles and classified ads may be e-mailed to Syd
or sent to Roger at the indicated e-mail address. Roger monitors the Internet chatrooms of interest.*

C4 Librarian:

Leo Shane

Leo_j.shane@hotmail.com

Chair: C4 Public Relations Committee

Marv Sauvain

mesauvain@aol.com



TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message (Ray Williams)	3
Super Dies and the R-I Colonial Coppers (Charles W. Smith)	4
Stray Finds – Historic Coins of Colonial Virginia (Thomas Kays)	8
A Puzzling Copy of the Rhode Island Ship Medal (Marc Mayhugh)	17
Wood 42 – Not a Blacksmith Copper (Gord Nichols)	20
Early Colonial Dealer (Daniel Sheffer)	22
Contemporary Counterfeit Corner – Historical Review (Bob Bowser)	25
Newly Discovered Variety of Condor Token (Syd Martin)	27
A Discussion of Crude American(?) Tokens (Byron Weston)	28
French-American Corner – An Unusual Host/Counterstamp (Syd Martin)	39
David Bowers Writes Column About C4 (Ray Williams)	40
Francis X. McGrath, 1941-2009 (Clem Schettino)	41
Spanish American Corner – Cut Silver (Ray Williams)	42
C4 Offers Important Colonial Books	43
Colonial Numismatic Literature Survey	44
Announcements	45
C4 Library News (Leo Shane)	48
Classified Ads	49

*Membership questions, address changes, and dues should be sent to Charlie Rohrer
Dues are \$25-regular (including 1" class mailing of the Newsletter); \$10 for junior members (under 18).*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Ray Williams)

I always get excited when your C4N editor contacts me for a president's message – it means that another newsletter will be in my mailbox soon! As a club, there are a number of us that interact online. Others attend the C4 Convention every year to have fun and share information. But for all of us without exception, the C4 Newsletter is what binds us together. Two things make C4N so successful: the outstanding editor we have and the article contributions from our membership. Thanks.

If you have an interesting coin observation, a story of personal numismatic experience or a letter to the editor, please send it to Syd. What is interesting to you will also be interesting to many others.

As much fun as our hobby is, there are times of sadness. I'm sorry to report that since the last newsletter, C4 member Frank McGrath was involved in a car accident and died from his injuries. There is more about Frank elsewhere in this issue. We will certainly miss him at conventions! I was reminiscing with a friend this week about all the C4 friends that are no longer with us – through our hobby they made our lives more enjoyable and I'm certain we did the same for them.

New to the Philadelphia area will be a convention held by Whitman this September. I plan to be there and I expect that it will be well attended by our membership. Then comes the C4 Convention in Boston, November 19th to the 22nd. Set them aside now and make your hotel reservations before Radisson is sold out.

For those unaware, fellow C4 member Q. David Bowers has a weekly column in *Coin World*. In the June 15th issue, his column dealt with C4 and our newsletter. I was truly amazed at what he had to say! You can learn more about this later in these pages.

Colonial numismatics seems to be as healthy as ever. Members doing research are moving ahead. There still seems to be a demand for high quality and rare coins; mid-grade common coins seem to be holding in the current economic atmosphere; and I've noticed that numismatic book dealers are doing well with books of a colonial nature.

Thinking about numismatic literature, the NBS had a survey of their membership to determine the top 100 numismatic publications. It was no surprise to find many of the top 20 or 30 books were colonial related. At my request, Steve Frank has agreed to collect the information for a similar survey that C4 is conducting. Please participate and follow the directions Steve outlines in this issue.

I am having so much fun with colonial coins and hope you are too. If you have reached a point where you are stagnant, take a turn in the hobby... look into collecting in a different colonial area, purchase a new book, call a friend in the hobby, show your coins to a young person and share some stories, write an article for this newsletter, send the C4 president a Dunkin Donuts gift certificate... you get the idea. This and any hobby should be fun and something to look forward to enjoying.

SUPER DIES AND THE R-1 COLONIAL COPPERS

(Charles W. Smith)

I. INTRODUCTION

A technologically interesting type collection within the various colonial coppers series consists of only 21 coins. These are the R-1 examples of Connecticut, New Jersey and Vermont coppers. Neither the Massachusetts nor the Nova Eborac series contain rarity R-1 die combinations. Machin's Mills series includes the R-1 example VT-87C, which is, of course, Ryder 13 in the Vermont series.

On the Sheldon rarity scale, R-1 means an extant population in excess of 1,250 specimens. If one assumes a 5% survival rate (probably conservative) then in excess of 25,000 coins may have been produced from each R-1 die pair. This article explores why these 42 Super Dies held up so well.

II. THE STUDY METHOD AND RESULTS

I became interested in the R-1 varieties from a technical point of view. I wondered if these dies had anything in common beyond their unusually long useful life. Numismatic history seems silent regarding when colonial-era dies were taken out of service. Unlike modern dies, which are retired when they show wear, colonial-era dies, judging from the coins they produced, appear to have been used right up to their point of failure. This being the case, I came to realize that it might be possible to track how the Super Dies failed. The bad news is that there are no actual dies to inspect, as least as far as I am able to determine, after contacting several museums and numismatic organizations. The good news is that there are hundreds upon hundreds of R-1 coins to examine!

The study method is simple; to look at late and very late die state examples of the 21 R-1 colonial coppers with the hope of answering two questions:

1. How do the Super Dies fail?
2. Is there a common failure mode?

To carry out this study I have examined over 200 late die state R-1 coins and over 1500 photographs.

Before discussing the results, the following is a list of the Super Dies.

Connecticut

1785: 4-L,
1787: 4.1-F.1, 6.1-M, 31.2-r.3, 33.2-Z.5, 33.2-Z.12, 33.7-r.2,
33.17-r.1, 33.32-Z.13
1788: 2-D

New Jersey

1786: 14-J, 18-M
1787: 43-d, 46-e, 48-g, 56-n, 63-S, 67-V

Vermont

1787: Ryder 13 (17-V), Ryder 16 (15-S), Ryder 27 (18-W)

Space does not permit full descriptions of all 42 dies from early die state through late, but perhaps a few examples will capture what happens as a die is employed up to its failure, or point of uselessness.

Connecticut 1787 4-L Horned Bust is a good example.

OBVERSE 4

- the horn begins early as a small flaw in the left field below the chin
- the horn, which is formed by a flake falling out of the die surface (it is technically not a crack), starts as a small crescent shape, below the chin the neck begins to bulge (i.e., the die sinks in the neck area)
- the horn lengthens and joins the chest
- the horn lengthens further, but at this stage, in the other direction, beyond the chin and it also widens
- AUCTORI fades
- CONNEC• fades

REVERSE L

- the shield loses detail
- the globe loses detail
- INDE fades
- ET LIB fades
- the feet fade

For those who have saved their McCawley and Grellman C-4 Auction Catalogues, see plates 4-115 and 4-116. (The first number “4” is the auction, the second number is the lot within that auction.) Note that these dies failed by sinking, not by cracking.

New Jersey 1787 46-e

OBVERSE 46 (11-306)

- die clash
- the plow area sinks
- the date fades: first 17 goes, then 87
- a small rim crack to A in NOVA forms

REVERSE e

- I fades (5-286)
- a bulge develops between star E star and the shield
- B fades (12-559)

Although some cracking occurs, again the primary failure mode is die sinking.

One final example. We consider what is probably the most used colonial die, 87C, the Britannia Type Reverse, employed to produce Vermont Ryder 13 in addition to five other pairings in the Machin's Mills series!

REVERSE 87C (12-42, 8-485)

- a short die crack from the rim to in front of the face. This may be an impact mark on the die surface rather than a crack since it does not seem to extend with use
- the right knee fades
- letter tops of RITA fade
- 1A• fade
- all letters eventually fade
- the feet fade
- the date fades (6-83)

The primary failure mode is die sinking, and details continue to fade as the die is used. Either the copper blank cannot flow sufficiently to fill the die voids (the fields of a die are the regions that come closest together when a coin is struck and push the copper toward the die voids) or the die voids have been "hammered" out of existence, i.e., peened flat.

In the New Jersey R-1 group there seems to be more cracking than in the other groups, but not rim-to-rim cracks.. Short letter-to-letter cracks or rim-to-device cracks occur, but still the primary failure mode is clearly die sinking.

The other Super Dies show similar failure scenarios and what appears to emerge from this study is that the dies that lasted the longest were heat tempered in a manner to be neither overly hard nor too soft. If dies are too hard, pieces of the die break away from

the rim which produces cuds or they crack from side-to-side like New Jersey obverse 57 in 57-n (R-6+), where the crack decapitates the horse's head (1-93) or the vertical rim-to-rim crack that bisects Vermont Ryder 18 (R-5) obverse 19, (13-410). On the other hand, if the die is too soft, the coins it produces will lose definition early and the die will have to be re-cut, lapped and heat-treated or scraped.

III. FINAL REMARKS

As a final observation, I should mention that dies can sink in two distinct ways. If the center is softer than the perimeter, the center will sink with use and the die will produce coins for which the lettering is well-defined but the devices either fade away or are raised up and wear away. See, for example, 1785 Connecticut 6.3-G.2 (R-5+) (12-100) or the numerous "smooth shield" New Jerseys we all have in our collections. (The shield detail is not struck up because the shield area on the die sank.) On the other hand, when the perimeter is softer than the center, the lettering fades first and the devices last to the bitter end. When the perimeter of the die is soft, die material gets pounded radially outward. We have all seen this phenomenon on the hammer-struck end of a well-used chisel. This is the case for the final die state of the reverse die of Vermont Ryder 2 (R-2), A, (13-393).

Within the 21 R-1 combinations there are a few exceptions, (After all, these are colonial coppers; there are always a few exceptions!) wherein cracking and sinking seem to play an equal role. See, for example, Connecticut 1787 31.2-r.3 (6-169) or New Jersey 1786 18-M (7-228). However, notice that the cracking is circumferential, not rim-to-rim, large cuds are absent and in the end the details fade by die sinking.

REFERENCES

1. McCawley and Grellman, C-4 Auction Catalogues I, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12 and 13.
2. John J. Ford, Jr. Collection, Stack's New York, NY Auction Catalogues: Part I, Part V and Part IX.

STRAY FINDS – HISTORIC COINS OF COLONIAL VIRGINIA

(Thomas Kays)

Ray Williams once lamented that numismatic authors, having written 90% of a new book, take too long to finish that last 10% -- delaying publication way too long to suit him. Here is a quick look at a slowly developing coin book that may lead to publication someday.



Collection of Old Copper Dug in Northern Virginia – Not Yet Attributed

The interest in relics has its foundation in the transitory nature of all material forms and the difficulty with which man makes any permanent impression upon them. It has taken but a thousand years or so to obliterate the monumental evidences of some of the greatest cities of the world. A few manuscript books have lasted a little longer, but time at last tyrannizes over all; walls crumble, the ancient books go piecemeal to rags, languages die, the meaning of words and symbols changes, and it requires the continuous attention of man to rescue anything from the sea of oblivion that continually encroaches upon the shores of history. A few leading ideas and words seem

to last forever, but as a rule, all human handiwork that appeals to the eye disappears sooner or later; and when we meet with any artificial object which presents to our eyes a form preserved, while cities have crumbled and nations have vanished, it seems a new revelation of the past. But it is [from] the unexpected discovery that familiar words, ideas and objects have a pedigree as long as chronology itself, that we get, perhaps, the most vivid impression of contact with the past, and shadowy hands seem to reach out suddenly from some mysterious storehouse of dead and dusty things to clasp our own.

Fawcette, W.L. "The History of the Two Pillars," *The Atlantic Monthly*, Boston, volume 33, no. 195, January 1874, p. 85.

Foremost among relics, coinage bears regal designs and engravers marks upon worn yet expressive faces. Rife with old legends proclaiming the sovereignty of kings, proud symbols of country and company, with privy marks of mint and maker, denomination and date of birth, coins tell us precisely from whence this bit of money came and how dearly it was held by shadowy hands that once clutched a bit of wealth in the dead and dusty past. Finding just one odd coin can be significant to our understanding of history....



Collection of Old Silver from Central Virginia Sites
Dates span the century before the Revolution

A fact surprising to the general public but something C4 readers know is that hundreds of old coins come to light each year found by lucky and persistent relic hunters, the quiet, successful ones - who now hold lifetime collections of dug objects amassed over half a century of happy digging. From these lifetime collections I've gathered data

on one thousand early coins dug at random in old Virginia. Mine detectors were used in Virginia by returning WWII vets in 1952 to find old war relics, and after two decades of improvement newer generations of metal detectors began turning up older colonial coins as detection technology gained reliable iron rejection. Since the 1970s deeper colonial coins began to come to light with greater frequency by devotees of digging colonial house sites. These old coins taken in large numbers form a regional study set, or local 'hoard' spread across the ages of foreign, colonial and early Federal coins, counterfeits and tokens – surprising stuff that was really out there...back then.

Surmises about coin origin, circulation and loss patterns by decade will be estimated in the book in order to help reconstruct an extended true type set of circulating colonial coins of Virginia. Historically accurate for any age and divisible by any hoard closing date desired, we will see what forgotten coin types jingled together in pockets and purses since Jamestown was young. These one thousand dug coins hold certain attributes in common. They were all lost at random by 1865, my cutoff date. They were all recently unearthed *in situ* after at least a century, or four, reposing in Virginia's soil or inland waterways. Each was validated by seeing them in person or in some cases by review of adequate pictures in archeological field reports when sufficient numismatic information to attribute and describe each coin's particulars was published. Besides coins, I include tokens, medals, weights, counters, jetons and counterfeit coins with interesting objects used to counterfeit them. Common types of hard money emerge with greater frequency if it long circulated in mid-Atlantic America, from west of the Chesapeake Bay thru the Tidewater and east of the Appalachian mountains, bounded by Petersburg to the south and the falls of the Potomac River to the north. History was made where these coins were lost, at Jamestown, Henrico, various "Hundreds" along the James River, Middle Plantation (later Williamsburg), Yorktown, Richmond, and points north and west including Falmouth, Fredericksburg, Manassas, Winchester, Harpers Ferry, Leesburg, Fairfax and Alexandria. Data about the site context in which the coins were discovered is included concerning particular civil war camp sites, turnpike toll houses, taverns, court houses, fords, house sites and docks along rivers and wagon roads leading away to the western Virginia frontier. Organized by Virginia county, early-dated coins may be found commensurate with the early founding of Virginia towns – older coins do come from older settlements. Yet coins of surprising origin, found in a Colonial American context, often defy conventional logic about what we would expect to dig based on written records of the time. High-grade coinage minted the world over with dates contemporary to their loss may lay together side-by-side with clipped old coins, worn out from a century and a half of hard circulation. Both together could have fallen from the same purse or pocket. Until the rise of serious American numismatists *circa* 1860, who began to share collection information with pictures, nearly all accounts of finding treasures of old foreign coins paid scant attention to preserving any reliable "numismatic" information since it was all just spendable.



Counterfeit Spanish Silver was all too common in commerce before the Civil War.

One Thousand Dug Coins of Va

- Composition
 - Silver 70%
 - Copper 23%
 - Gold 1%
 - Other Metals 6%
- Counterfeits 6% (Post 1745)



Coin "Dates" by Century

- 16th Century – 1.5%
- 17th Century – 8%
- 18th Century – 37.5%
- 19th Century – 53%
(to 1865)
- Average circulation duration – 34 years of wear

Coin wear helps estimate the circulation duration. Coinage reform studies from the days of Queen Anne, assay reports and subsequent mint observations about the quality of circulating coin also help correlate old coin popularity and then replacement by new coin types. On average half of the dug coins were lost more than 34 years after they

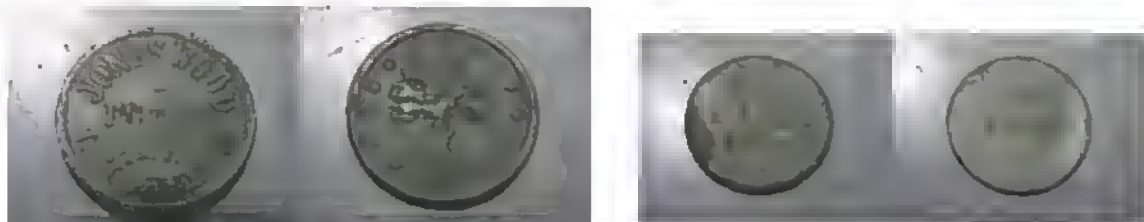
were manufactured. Some kicked around for 140 years being worn nearly smooth when lost. By 1860, one out of a hundred coins in circulation dated to before 1760. Virginians favored small silver coins in daily trade. Few people ever had money enough to keep sums in gold coin. Gold coin values were much discussed, being employed in overseas purchases, but did not appear in everyday use. Gold was seldom lost casually. Copper coins tended to be traded away north to Pennsylvania and south to the Carolinas and stayed there due to favorable exchange rates. Shiploads of new and odd coin types from exotic ports would appear for a time in circulation. Legal importation, smuggling and prizes won at sea paid out in coin before the mast to happy crewmen as they made port help stir the mix. Counterfeit coins were found in America since the 1680s and became a sizeable worry by 1750. If caught by constables in the time of George II, convicted counterfeiters or utterors of false coin and mechanics of false paper faced involuntary transportation and seven years labor in the colonies where their former trade sometimes flourished again. Imagine if six out of every hundred dollars in your pay turn out to be no good. The sheriff could throw you in gaol if you give in to "utter" temptation to pass bad coin along. Merchants would often nail bad coin to countertops like bad checks warning what to look out for. Date of "manufacture" for genuine coins of course is the date on the coin, but for counterfeit coins the true date of manufacture often postdated the apparent date. Dug coins of Virginia in my experience span farthest back to the oldest mintage of *circa* 1542.

An odd Hoard of Coins

Relics in the ground at any given era include items lost in every prior age

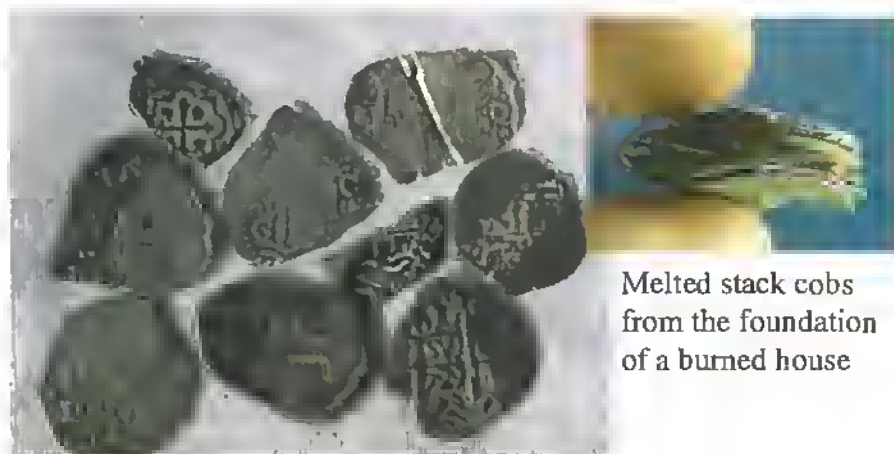
Number of Coins	Era Lost	Years in Era	Duration in Years	Comments
169	Virginia CSA	1865 – 1861	4 Years	Civil War
478	Virginia USA	1860 – 1789	73 Years	Pre War
98	VA under Continental Congress / Confederation	1788 – 1776	12 Years	Pre Federal / Rev war
227	Late English Era - "Tobacco Colony"	1775 – 1700	76 Years	Pre Rev War
16	Early English Era - Crown Colony	1699 – 1625	75 Years	Before Capitol at Williamsburg
8	Virginia Company of London	1624 – 1607	17 Years	Jamestown & James River
4	Spanish New World – MidAtlantic Seaboard	1606 - 1492	116 Years	Before Permanent English Settlement

Coin loss in Virginia now spans more than four centuries - from early new world exploration in North America by coin carrying pioneers, the Virginia Company of London, the British Crown Colony of Virginia, known as the "Tobacco Colony," and from the Commonwealth of England to the Commonwealth of Virginia under auspices of the Continental Congress, United and Confederate States. Pre-Civil War commerce of Virginia set far from Federal mint sources was slow to redeem foreign coin, such that by the outset of the Civil War Confederate troop spending in early war camps brought out older coins which then quickly dried up. Everyone hoarded coins, bringing to an end the circulation of hard money until specie payments resumed for Federal currency *circa* 1870. This makes a wide break in the circulation of foreign coins that were demonetized and done as a circulating medium. Most old foreign coin left fed Victorian era silversmiths' melting pots to supply coin silver tableware.



New York Civil War Tokens dug in Virginia include an 1863 Joneswood Hotel Token and 145th Regiment New York State Volunteers Ten Cent Sutler Token

Coins lost in the "Tobacco Colony" (Colonial Virginia from 1700 to 1775)



Usual Types of Dug Cobs Minted from 1653 - 1743

Melted stack cobs
from the foundation
of a burned house

One surprising thing is that so many pre-Revolutionary War coin types unknown to modern coin collectors were lost, but small losses do add up over long times. By 1635 the immigrant population of Virginia was a mere 4000 persons and by 1680 only about 40,000. Since people who used money were scarce, hard money was pretty scarce in Virginia before 1700. Wars in Europe chronically stirred up Virginia's economy, sending free-spending troops and their payroll in whatever currency and a few coins out to the wilderness to lose them at cards, provisioning, and just plain to lose them in the rough.



Two Reales of Lima – Dated 1687 – Full weight and as original and unclipped – as can be dug from kind, sandy soil at an early James River site

One Thousand Dug Coins of Virginia by Denomination

Common Finds

- 20% Spanish Pistareen cut 1/4s
- 10% Half Reales Spanish Colonies
- 10% Reales Spanish Colonies
 - 8% Half Pence - English
 - 7% Cents - USA
 - 4% Half Dimes - USA
 - 3% Dimes - USA
 - 3% Tokens (Various)
 - 3% Eight Reales
 - 2% Pistareen cut 1/2s
 - 2% Half Cents - USA
 - 2% Half Dollars - USA
- 1% Quarter Dollars - USA
- 1% Colonial Coppers
- 1% Farthings – Great Britain
- 1% Pistareen cut 1/8s
- 1% Pistareens (Uncut)

Uncommon Finds

- 21% Exotic odds & ends of less than one per cent each – not statistically common (R-7s and scarcer on the dug coin rarity scale – Wait for book for details)

Common Money by Country in the ground by the Civil War

Country	Amount	Earliest Date	Latest Date	Commonest Types	Heyday in Virginia Commerce (to 1865)
Spain	26%	Circa 1620	1810	2 Reales cut ?	1725 - 1781
USA	24%	1792*	1865+	Large Cent, Half Dime, Dime	Gold 1855 - 1856 Silver 1853 - 1862 Copper 1817 - 1863 Copper Nickel 1838 - 1865
Mexico	19%	Circa 1542	1823	Half Real, One Real, 2 Reales	1782 - 1852
England	9%	Circa 1560	1816	Half Penny	1700 - 1775
Bolivia	4%	Circa 1590	1808	One Real Cob	1680 - 1735
Peru	4%	1659	1805	One Real Cob, Pillar	1680 - 1770
VA Colony	2%	1773	1773	Half Penny	1776 - 1785
Ireland	1%	1601	1783*	Farthing	1607 - 1699
Connecticut	1%	1785	1788	Half Penny	1789 - 1800

It may surprise you that less than one quarter of the coins accumulated by loss to Virginia soil by 1865 were minted by the authority of the United States. The single Philadelphia Mint for four decades struggled to catch up and keep up with the population explosion of United States citizenry and their need for coin to fuel commerce:

—After fifteen years, by 1808, only one dollar in US coin per citizen had been minted

—After thirty years by 1824 only two dollars per person had been minted but much was melted since the early gold and silver had been set at a firm exchange rate of 15:1 which made it economical at times to export and melt U.S. coins in bulk for their metal overseas.

It is now nearly thirty years since our new money of account, our coins, our mint, have been established. The dollar, under its new stamp, has preserved its name and circulation. The cent has become tolerably familiarized to the tongue, wherever it has been made by circulation familiar to the hand. But the dime having seldom, and the mille never, presented in their material images to the people, have remained so utterly unknown, that now, when the recent coinage of dimes is alluded to in our public journals, if their name is mentioned, it is always with an explanatory definition to inform the reader, that they are ten-cent pieces; and some of them

which have found their way over the mountains...have been received for more than they were worth, and have passed for an eighth, instead of a tenth, part of a dollar. Even now, at the end of thirty years, ask a tradesman, or shopkeeper, in any of our cities what is a dime or a mille, and the chances are four in five that he will not understand your question. But go to New York and offer in payment the Spanish coin, the unit of the Spanish piece of eight, and the shop or market-man will take it for a shilling. Carry it to Boston or Richmond, and you shall be told it is not a shilling, but nine pence. Bring it to Philadelphia, Baltimore, or the City of Washington, and you shall find it recognized for an eleven-penny bit; and if you ask how that can be, you shall learn that, the dollar being of ninety pence, the eighth part of it is nearer to eleven than to any other number: and pursuing still further the arithmetic of popular denominations, you will find that half eleven is five, or, at least, that half the eleven-penny bit at Richmond shrinks to four pence half-penny, and at New York swells to six pence. And thus we have English denominations most absurdly and diversely applied to Spanish coins; while our own lawfully established dime and mille remain, to the great mass of the people, among the hidden secrets of political economy – state secrets. (Report concerning the Metric System by the Honorable John Quincy Adams - 1820)

The combined output of four branch mints Charlotte and Dalonega, (gold only) New Orleans since 1838, and the San Francisco Assay Office which opened in 1852 (later the San Francisco Mint in 1854) serving the California gold fields were needed to help US coin production capacity outpace population growth. Sixty years since the Philadelphia Mint began the flood of California gold back east drove up silver prices until a compensating reduction in silver coin weight in 1853 began to allow the newly reduced U.S. coin (arrows at the date of Seated Liberty coins) to circulate more nationally. The New York Assay Office in 1853 served Wall Street and helped begin to cull foreign coins demonetized in 1857. With Federal money flood gates open for only a decade before the Civil War we begin to see why foreign coins dominated commerce in Virginia to 1865.

A PUZZLING COPY OF THE RHODE ISLAND SHIP MEDAL (Marc Mayhugh)

Whenever a Rhode Island Ship medal (hereafter referred to as RISM) is mentioned, cryptic, enigmatic, or mysterious, is usually contained somewhere in the sentence. The mystery is most often associated with the origin of the medal – where and why it was produced, or what is meant by the legends and symbols. Occasionally, the metal composition of the medal is brought up and analyzed.¹ Recently, I acquired a copy of the medal which is somewhat mysterious in its own right. Keeping in mind that I am a layperson, with no experience whatsoever in metallurgy, I would like to share my experiences with this particular token, pictured below.



To begin, a brief description of the medal is probably in order. The most succinct and accurate description I could find appears in the second John J. Ford sale and is presented as it appeared in the sale:²

The Rhode Island Medal shows on its obverse a British warship with her sails furled and a Dutch inscription around that means, in English, "The Admiral's flagship of Admiral Howe, 1779." The reverse shows the island of Rhode Island in the center dotted with small figures of American soldiers running towards the right coast. In the field are three large warships. In the right field are two rows of whaleboats ferrying soldiers away from the island. The Dutch inscription on this side can be translated as, "The Americans running from Rhode Island August 1779."

Much has been made about the what the medal signifies, but the general consensus is that the medal is of English or Dutch origin, depending on which version you believe,³ and is a propaganda piece. The composition of the medal is either brass or pewter.

My peculiar copy of the medal was purchased sight unseen from a German dealer, at a price that would hardly prove catastrophic even if it turned out to be a copy. The dealer had it listed simply as a 1779 Rhode Island Jeton. When I received the medal I was very happy after reviewing the reverse side of the medal. I had never seen one before and it appeared brassy and authentic looking. Then, I flipped the token over to the ship side and had a very different experience. This side still had the yellow brassy color but also exhibited numerous areas of pitting which showed a white chalky color beneath the brass, which seriously dampened my initial delight and caused me to think there might be something wrong with the piece.

Shortly after receiving the medal, I attended a fairly large coin show in St. Louis and showed the piece around to get some expert opinions. To make a long story short, I showed the piece to five dealers: one colonial, two large cent dealers, a world coin guy, and an ancient dealer who sometimes sells colonials. As expected, I got a variety of responses. The results: two=electros, with a large cent guy calling it an electro immediately proclaiming the white spots to be lead; and, three=I'm not positive one way or the other and wouldn't want to make the call. At that point in time I'd pretty well become convinced the coin was spurious, although I could not figure out why one side looks so good, and the other, so pitiful. Also, I have handled several electros in my time, and all have an obvious seam (this one could have been filed as there are some edge markings; plus, I have also read that RISMs exhibit edge scoring). All electros I have seen are copper over a dark gray, lead color. I have never seen a brass electro, although I suppose they can exist. I did find a reference which reads in part, "...an alloy mix would have been very difficult to electrotype deposit."⁴

Convinced that I had a fake RISM, but not being easily discouraged, I carried the piece to the 2009 EAC, Colonial happening and showed it to Ray Williams. Ray offered to test the specific gravity of the piece for me, and Ray, being Ray, took the ball and ran with it, arranging to have EDAX testing (Electron Dispersive Analysis of Xray) done on the token. This test was preformed by a professional metallurgist, Chris Pilliod. I was finally able to get some real, factual data about the medal. The results, while as expected, proved interesting nevertheless.

In a nutshell, Mr. Pilliod's conclusion was, "This piece is indeed plated. The surface of the piece has a composition copper-zinc as follows:"

52.38%	Cu
47.18%	Zn
.44%	Fe

This is quite interesting, as this is high grade brass. If compared to the surface composition of the Appleton-MHS *Vlugtende* RISM specimen in Hodder's report you will find the two pieces nearly identical in surface composition – that piece has the

following make up:

53.08%	Cu
46.03%	Zn
.89%	Fe

Mr. Pilliod's analysis continues with "The core was analyzed in two areas revealed by heavy localized corrosion. The areas reveal the core to be primarily tin, perhaps pure tin as the beam may have been interfered with from the outer layer of copper-zinc. The results of the two separate areas are:"

FIRST AREA		SECOND AREA	
13.05%	Cu	9.67%	Cu
7.64%	Zn	5.86%	Zn
79.30%	Sn (tin)	84.01%	Sn
		.46%	Fe

This is another intriguing analysis, for even without the suggestion that the core may be pure tin, the first thing that comes to mind is PEWTER. The Wikipedia free encyclopedia defines pewter as, "traditionally being between 85% - 99% tin, with the remainder commonly consisting of copper, antimony and lead." Pewter also just happens to be the other known metal composition of the RISM's, and is rarer than the brass pieces.

What all this means, I can't say for sure, except that I think it is pretty neat to have an electrotype of the Rhode Island Ship Medal composed of exactly the two different types of metals used in the production of the RISM's. Fortunately for me, the medal offers an opportunity for more research and exploration. For example, is there any significance to the fact the surface composition of the medal is exactly that of the Appleton-MHS Vlugtende medal; can brass be electroplated; what does edge scoring mean exactly. By the way, I would appreciate any information on any of these questions. In closing, I would like to express my grateful appreciation to Ray Williams and Chris Pilliod for the time, and the effort they took to analyze this medal for me, and for the information they supplied.

ENDNOTES

¹ See: Hodder, Michael. "The Appleton-Massachusetts Historical Society Rhode Island Ship Token with Vlugtende," *The Colonial Newsletter*, March 1990.

Lorenzo, John. "The Rhode Island Ship Token Revisited." *Pennywise*, January 15, 1994.

² The John J. Ford, Jr. Collection, Part II. Stack's, May 11, 2004.

³ John Kleeberg believes the medal is Dutch rather English. See: Bowers, Q. David. *Whitman's Encyclopedia of Colonial and Early American*, p.69

⁴ Hodder, *op. cit.*

WOOD 42 – NOT A BLACKSMITH COPPER

(Gord Nichols)

For some years now, collectors interested in halfpence that circulated in colonial North America have argued the placement of the copper known as Wood 42 in the overall scheme of things. In 1910 Howland Wood published his historic work "The Canadian Blacksmith Coppers." These tokens were seen at the time as having been manufactured and circulated in colonial Canada. The debate began sometime ago when Warren Baker, having seen no specimen that he could justify calling uniface stated that Wood 42 was not a Blacksmith token, but rather a crude yet ordinary contemporary (i.e., late 18th century) counterfeit British halfpenny. This would imply a date and place of manufacture somewhere in Great Britain and much earlier than previously thought.



Wood 42

Wood described his Blacksmith 42 as a uniface copper with a "HEAD OF GEORGE II TO LEFT. NO INSCRIPTION." This was the accepted state of affairs until the Warren Baker Collection of Canadian Blacksmith Coppers was auctioned by Bowers & Merena in March 1987; in it, the Wood 42 specimen offered was accompanied by the statement "While a legitimate example of Wood 42, this variety is not a blacksmith." The specimen shown there, upside down no less, exhibited a noticeable Britannia on the reverse, but no date.

Shortly thereafter I purchased a specimen of Wood 42 with a clear Britannia and a full, strong retrograde 1771 date. The date was punched in using regular as opposed to die sinker's number punches, hence it appears as a mirror image on the token, with the second 7 (the one to the right of the other as you look at the token) being double punched. Since that time communications have improved and a whole family of British contemporary counterfeits related to the retrograde dated Wood 42 have come to light. While most of these current "family" members are distinguished by retrograde dating, all

of these current specimens are dated, and all would appear to be contemporary with their date rather than c1830 as would be expected for blacksmiths. This should lay to rest most questions as to the time of issue of these bifacial coppers bearing the "Wood 42" obverse.

However, Wood did indeed describe a uniface Wood 42. Howland Wood was not an inexperienced collector. It still remains possible that after an earlier, none too successful contemporary use in Britain, the obverse die could have made its way to colonial Canada decades later. There, it could have been employed to slightly enhance the meager copper population in 1830's colonial Canada. If this is the case, then there should be a few, as yet unknown, uniface Wood 42s. A positively identifiable, clearly uniface Wood 42 must, I think, show itself to revive the idea of Wood 42 being a Blacksmith Copper as described by Wood.

***WHITMAN COIN & COLLECTIBLES CONVENTION –
PHILADELPHIA***

(www.whitmanexpo.com)

Whitman is holding a convention in Philadelphia September 21-26, 2009. Being a rather large show (300-400 tables), and in close proximity to New England, I expect to see many colonial collectors there. I'm in the process of making arrangements for C4 to have a meeting room available on Saturday morning at 9:00 AM. Scheduling with convention centers can always change at the last minute – as I know well from our C4 Conventions, so please check the schedule when you arrive. The event will be held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. I hope to see many of you there and please plan to attend the C4 Meeting – it's a time of fun – not a boring meeting! Please check the Whitman website for updated information, maps and hotel information.

Ray

**Pennsylvania Convention Center
1101 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
800-428-9000**

EARLY COLONIAL DEALER

(Daniel Sheffer)

I am a 24-year old coin and currency collector and full time dealer. I began collecting when I was 13 years old. There is no one reason I began collecting coins (and later currency); however, one reason is my family history. Growing up I learned that my great grandfather, Earnest A. Hack was a coin collector, turned dealer! He lived in Detroit, MI, just 20 miles from where I live. He began collecting in 1900, at the age of 11. In 1910 he opened a coin, currency, and stamp shop. The business name was Eagle Stamp and Coin Co. He moved the business in 1915 and closed it about 1940, after which he ran the business from his house and attended shows. His business was very successful, and he was able to raise eight kids on his income.

Finding information on Earnest's store has proven difficult. My older family members were not coin collectors. Therefore they did not ask questions, or retain much information on his dealings. But my search has been helped greatly by the internet. Any coin dealer knows that summer is slow both for buying and selling. On a warm summer day in 2008 I went to the search engine Google, and typed in "Eagle Stamp and Coin." Now this was not the first time I had done this. I had never found anything before. But I believe "everything happens for a reason." This day the search results were different. This day there was an active (still running) auction on eBay for a lot of 6 old coin catalogs. All but one of them was from the 1940's. But the 6th one was a 1917 Eagle Stamp and Coin Co. catalogue – I had found my great grandfather's catalogue! I ended up winning the lot for just \$5! Later in 2008 while attending a family reunion, a cousin gave me another copy of the same catalogue that was passed down directly from Earnest!

The 1917 catalogue listed retail prices (his sell prices) for coins, currency, and stamps. On page 13 of this catalogue was a listing of colonial coins (Figure 1). When you have finished drooling over the prices, read on. As you can imagine, "Fair" and "Good" grades were nicer than what we call these grades today. In 1917 if a collector wanted to purchase an Oak Tree Shilling, they would have to part with \$3. If the collector was picky, and had deep enough pockets, they could pay \$5 for an example in "Good." Think about this – \$5 was a days wages at the nearby Ford plant. I don't think my great grandfather sold out of these coins too fast!

This catalogue is very significant to Colonial coin collectors. Information on retail prices is very hard to locate from the early 1900s. Many collections of this era were sold at auction (hard to say if prices would be "Retail" or "Wholesale"), or in shops (records of sales not kept for study today). The now famous "Red Book," as it's known to collectors, was still 29 years in the future. I would imagine that collectors who received a copy of this catalogue in 1917 would retain it for future reference.

To further compare colonial coin prices of 1917 to prices of today, I give you some U.S. coin values from the same catalogue: 1856 Flying Eagle cent \$8.00; 1909-S,

V.D.B. cent \$.15 to \$.25 (that's 15 cents to 25 cents!). Or put another way, you could purchase 12 to 20, 1909-S, V.D.B. cents for the cost of an Oak Tree Shilling.

EAGLE STAMP & COIN CO.,

DETROIT, MICH.

List of United States Coins.

Together with the principal varieties of Colonial, early State issues, and Washington Cents, giving prices at which they can be obtained in various states of preservation from the

Prices subject to change.

COLONIAL

Colonial Coins under column marked "Very Fair" rarely show dates plain, as these coins were not well struck.

CONNECTICUT

	Fair	Good
1785 Cent, mailed bust to right	\$.50	\$1.00
1786 Cent, mailed bust to right	.50	1.00
1786 Cent, mailed bust to left	.25	.50
1786 Cent, draped bust to right	.50	.75
1787 Cent, mailed bust to right	.50	1.00
1787 Cent, mailed bust to left	.15	.50
1787 Cent, draped bust to left	.10	.50
1788 Cent, mailed bust to right	.50	.75
1788 Cent, mailed bust to left	.20	.50
1788 Cent, draped bust to right	.50	.75
1788 Cent, mailed bust to left	.50	1.00

KENTUCKY

Half Penny, oval, rev. stars	1.00	1.50
------------------------------	------	------

LOUISIANA

1721 Sou, crowned U.S.	.75	1.50
------------------------	-----	------

MASSACHUSETTS

1672 2 p. oak tree, silver	3.00	5.00
1682 1s, oak tree, silver	5.00	7.00
1682 1s, pine tree, large silver	4.00	7.00
1687 1s, pine tree, small silver	4.00	6.00
1687 6s, pine tree, silver	4.00	6.00
1692 3s, pine tree, silver	3.00	5.00
1787 5c, Indian	1.25	2.00
1787 1c, Indian	.40	1.00
1788 15c, Indian	1.50	2.00
1788 1c, Indian	.50	1.00

NEW JERSEY

1776 1/2p. St. Patrick, large	1.50	2.50
1776 1/2p. St. Patrick, small	2.50	4.00
1780 Cent, horse head to right	1.00	1.50
1782 Cent, horse head	.25	.50
1782 Cent, horse head	.30	.75
1783 Cent, horse head to left	1.75	3.50

NEW YORK

1781 1/2p. North American colon	.25	.75
1783 Cent, radiant eye, Reverse U.S.	.35	.75
1783 Cent, radiant eye, Rev. woman	.35	.75
1783 Cent, Rev. Liberty to left	.35	2.00
1789 Cent, Rev. Liberty to right	1.00	2.00
1791 Cent, Liberty, Tailor, Adam & Eve	.50	.75

VERMONT

1785 Cent, mountains, Vermont	1.00	2.50
1785 Cent, mountains, Vermont	1.25	2.50
1786 Cent, mount's, Vermontensium	1.00	2.50
1786 Cent, infant bust	.75	2.00
1786 Cent, mailed bust	.50	2.00
1787 Cent, mailed bust to right	.40	.75
1787 Cent, mailed bust to left	.45	.75
1788 Cent, mailed bust to right	.40	.75

VIRGINIA

1773 Half penny, arms	.50	.75
-----------------------	-----	-----

WASHINGTON CENTS

1783 United States	.50	1.00
1783 Unity States	.50	1.00
1783 Georgius Triumpho	1.00	2.50
1789 General of the Armies	3.50	6.00
1791 Large eagle	3.50	5.00
1791 Small eagle	4.00	6.00
1798 Ship	2.00	3.50
1798 Fireplace	1.00	2.00
1798 Liberty and Security	1.00	2.00
Liberty and Security, large	1.25	2.00
Double head	.50	1.25
Success to the U. S.	1.00	2.00
Success to the U. S., large	1.00	1.50
North Wales	1.00	2.00

U. S. HALF CENTS

Note—Cents and half cents are only priced in two states of preservation. Very fine coins command much higher prices. Date always plain, even in cheapest condition.

	Good	Fair
1793 Liberty cap	\$5.00	\$1.50
1794 Liberty cap	2.50	1.00
1795 lettered edge	3.50	1.00
1795 plain edge	3.00	1.00
1795 no pole	3.00	1.00
1796		
1797 lettered edge	4.00	2.00
1797 plain edge	2.00	1.00
1798 letter head	1.00	.75
1799	1.00	2.00
1803 silver head	.50	.35

Figure 1 – Colonial Coins for Sale by The Eagle Stamp & Coin Co. in 1917

At the top of page 33 is a listing of Colonial Currency (Figure 2). These were offered at 20 cents to 80 cents each! Or a collector could buy "Four bills from different Colonies" for 75 cents (19 cents each). There were no grades given for these notes. I would assume they were for circulated notes, with minimal damage. Paper money collecting of any kind was not popular at the time. My great grandfather however was an avid collector and dealer of all early (pre-1865) paper money. He recognized the potential these notes held. And for these prices, who could blame him?

Unfortunately, no colonial coins or notes were passed down through the family; although a few coins and notes from post 1793 were passed down – the earliest of which is a 1798 large cent which I cherish very much!

I am very proud to be descended from an early retail dealer in Colonial coins and currency. When I read his catalogue, I realized that not only could my colonial coins have been held by famous early Americans, but also they may have been part of my great grandfather's inventory!

EAGLE STAMP & COIN CO.,		DETROIT, MICH.	
CIVIL WAR RELICS.			
637 Bullets from Gettysburg	.10	708 5 Shillings, Conn.	.50
638 Bullets from Fredericksburg	.12	709 20 Shillings, Conn.	.75
639 Bullets from Cold Harbor	.10	710 40 Shillings, Conn.	.80
640 Confederate Certificates	.25	711 \$1.00 State Mass., 1786	.25
641 Civil War Envelopes, two for	.10	712 2.00 State Mass., 1786	.25
642 Indian Arrow points, 12 per	.75	713 3.00 State Mass., 1786	.25
643 World's Fair Admission Tickets, Fine set of ten, Genuine	.65	714 4.00 State Mass., 1786	.20
		715 8.00 State Mass., 1786	.25
COLONIAL CURRENCY.		716 20.00 State Mass., 1786	.25
Issued by Continental		717 N. C. 1778, $\frac{1}{4}$, good	.70
700 2 Pence, Conn.	.50	718 N. C. 1778, $\frac{1}{4}$, good	.60
701 3 Pence, Conn.	.50	719 N. C. 1778, $\frac{1}{4}$, good	.60
702 4 Pence, Conn.	.55	720 N. C. 1778, 1., good	.60
703 5 Pence, Conn.	.60	721 N. C. 1778, 2., good	.65
704 6 Pence, Conn.	.60	722 N. C. 1778, 5., good	.55
705 7 Pence, Conn.	.65	723 R. I., 1786, 3 shillings, fine	.40
706 9 Pence, Conn.	.65	724 S. C., 1779, \$90.00, fine	.75
707 2 Shillings, Conn.	.40	725 Four bills from different Colonies	.75
		Colonial Notes from various States, write for prices.	

Figure 2 – Colonial Currency for Sale by The Eagle Stamp & Coin Co. in 1917.

**** THE CONTEMPORARY COUNTERFEIT CORNER ****

HISTORICAL REVIEW

(Bob Bowser)

On a recent occasion of back-to-back rainy days, I took time for a little historical (or in my case maybe hysterical) review of a large group of old literature relating to British coinage. Specifically, following the passing of my older brother last fall, I acquired his accumulation of Seaby's "Coin and Medal Bulletins" and Spinks' "Numismatic Circulars" and various 1960s-70s auction catalogues.

After browsing a few of the Spinks' "Circulars" from the 1970s, I noted a distinct lack of 1770s dated copper counterfeit halfpence and farthings in their listings and auctions. As we have surmised, this confirms that contemporary counterfeit coppers were for centuries relegated to dealer junk boxes along with brass shillings and six penny imitation coins. The trend in the 1960s auctions and 1970s lists appeared to be only to list copper regal issues in excellent states of preservation. This led me on a quest to determine when – or what – were the first actual attempts to list our favorite little counterfeits.

The first auction listing I could locate was in the official ANA Catalogue from the 1964 Cleveland ANA Sale and it was for a very choice VF, *Vexator Canadensis* token, Lot 1511A, which sold for all of \$45.00. Undoubtably, an astute student of pre-confederation Canadian coinage did well with that investment.

The only listing I could find in the Spinks "Circular" listings for an imitation copper was in the February 1972 issue, for an extremely well made 1775-dated forgery halfpence in EF (British Graded) – for sale for 15 Pounds.

Also of interest to current collectors of this counterfeit copper series in these old documents from Seaby were some notes listing information from the *British Tower Mint's Records*, Volumes 1-41, which provide some insight into the practices and activities of the Mint operation and finances. I offer here a couple of confirming and interesting facts from these notes:

- Milled coinage equipment was introduced at the Tower Mint in 1662, ending the run of hammered coinage for England and Ireland.
- Royal contracts for coinage were issued to third party Moneyers, who worked at the Mint under contract and employed the skilled workers to engrave dies and produce coinage with metal supplied by the Crown.
- From 1769 – July 1817 and occasionally until 1851, worn halfpence were exchanged at the mint for new and were melted to produce new coinage

(presumably this would have included circulated counterfeit halfpence as well). (Seaby, April 1973, "Coin and Medal Bulletin")

- A December 1772 petition to establish rewards for the apprehension of clippers of coinage was recorded in the Mint records.
- In January 1834 a financial entry for a number of old Tower Mint British and Irish halfpenny coins withdrawn from circulation and melted was listed in Seaby.

My hope is that these tidbits from the Tower Mint's history help interested collectors of these copper imitations, evasions and counterfeits of regal coinage appreciate more the environment and circumstances of their creation and utility.

Editor's Challenge: Who can find the earliest listing of a counterfeit copper in a auction catalogue? Let me know your "entries" – with results published in the *C4 Newsletter*.

NEWLY DISCOVERED VARIETY OF CONDOR TOKEN (Syd Martin)

There is a rare Dalton and Hamer¹ (D&H) Condor token from Middlesex issued by William Forster, and given the D&H number 302. A description of this token, taken from D&H is:

Obverse: A crown, and the date 1795, encircled with the notes of "GOD SAVE THE KING."

Reverse: The Prince of Wales's crest, within a double circle. WM. FORSTER . VIOLIN . TENOR . & VIOLONCELLO MAKER . NO. 348 STRAND LONDON"

With two edge letterings known:

302a: Edge lettered "PAYABLE IN LANCASTER LONDON OR BRISTOL"

302b: Edge milled (only known struck in silver)

There appears to be a proof known in White Metal. Both varieties are given D&H's "RR" rarity rating.

The new discovery is the uncirculated piece shown below. It conforms to the description for D&H 302, except that it has a plain edge – it was struck out of collar, and the edge is rounded rather than square. That it is an unrecorded form is unquestionable.



¹ Dalton, R. & Hamer, S. H., *The Provincial Token-Coinage of the 18th Century* (1967 Reprint)

A DISCUSSION OF CRUDE AMERICAN(?) COUNTERFEITS

(Byron Weston)

Editor: Byron Weston sent the following e-mail chain discussing counterfeit coppers, with specific attention to those falling within the Ringo "Crude American Family." The presentation is chronological, and unedited. Byron has inserted some present-day clarifications – they are in bracketed italics. Participants are: MKR = Mike Ringo; BKW = Byron Weston; RAM = Roger Moore; EKS = Ed Serrafian; Ray = Ray Williams; Clem = Clem Schettino; Gord = Gord Nichols. See photos at the end of the article.

08/10/2004

MKR

Hi Byron,

I'm leaving for Pittsburgh tomorrow (Wed.) and will be there to the bitter end. I'll have lots of stuff for show and tell, and also plan on bringing my photo set-up. See you there--

Mike

BKW

Of course, now that I know that you're are going to be there I'll probably bring along some things I originally hadn't thought of bringing to the pre-ANA.

Byron

08/14/2004

BKW

An impromptu meeting of the counterfeits egroup was held at the PAN pre-ANA Convention/ Show at the Monroeville Expo-Mart consisting of two members. Various issues and topics were discussed as well there being a lively and enlightening session of show-and-tell. I only regret that more members could not be present, as should they. It was decided to continue the meeting at the ANA four days hence at which time it is hoped that a few more members may be able to attend, thus the meeting minutes are not yet completed.

Byron

[I spent three hours and probably more at Mike's table, gradually becoming totally unaware of the coin show that was going on around us, discussing and viewing our respective collections of counterfeit halfpence. We also discussed papers we were each considering or already working on, centering on the cruder

counterfeit halfpence, including but not limited to the "Baby Head" counterfeit halfpenny and Vlack 14-84A. Mike revealed that he had at one time owned two "Baby Head" counterfeits and that one of his examples of Vlack 14-84A sold in a C4 auction had come from England. I revealed to Mike that I had come across a very close relative of Vlack 14-84A. Mike also introduced me to his Crude American Family of Counterfeits and asked my opinion on whether or not he should do a write-up on them. I encouraged him to do so. We also discussed the potential pitfalls of having discussions like this in public forums, such as on line egroups, and how it might be done without revealing the premise of such a paper. BKW]

MKR
7127MKR

Here's the so-called "Baby Head", I think I posted it to the egroup files a while back, now it has a number.

Mike

RAM

When and by whom was it made? Roger

08/15/2004

MKR

If you or I could answer that question, you or I would be famous ;)=. If your question is old vs. new, I believe it's an old counterfeit, not something made recently by a certain somebody--

Mike

BKW

I'm going to try to cover "Anonymous" counterfeits more and I know that Mike will be a big contributor to this as I was just looking at many of his crude pieces yesterday. It is likely that we will never know for certain where many if not most or all of these pieces were actually made but it would also be wrong (for me) to totally dismiss the possibility that some of these crude pieces may have been made in America (or Canada).

Provenance shouldn't really be that big of an issue. After all the possibility or likelihood of any counterfeit variety, crude or generic, having circulated somewhere in British North America is quite certain. I've never thought that they should be collected strictly by origin or provenance alone.

Byron

Spring 2009

BKW

Mike,

I'm going to start a sub-folder within my archive folder for you called "Anonymous" for these crude pieces. A suggestion for others as well, I suppose...

Byron

BKW

BTW, the weight on the one you examined yesterday is 91 grains, Mike, your estimation was close. Yours seemed like a heavy weight in comparison, can you tell me the weight?

Byron

MKR

The weight of my "Baby Head" is 131.8 grains. For your files, the piece came from the Curto collection through an intermediary. The envelope (in Curto's handwriting I assume) states "Penn Bungtown, Schmall # 230".

Mike

BKW

I've added your notes on this piece to the archives.

Byron

MKR

Mine could be the Scmall specimen, but I have no way of telling. I'll ask the dealer I bought it from, but he probably won't be of much help.

The Kosoff example went to Rod Widok.

Mike

[Schmall wrote an article for the July, 1944 issue of Numismatic Review (Vol. 2, No. 1) titled "A Discussion of the so-called 'Bungtown' tokens." Schmall #230 was an example of Atkins-230; Peck, plate 50, coin zz. Apparently the dealer who sold Mike this and 7101MKR mixed up the envelopes with 7127MKR ending up in the original envelope for 7101MKR, and vice versa. These were sold in the

Ringo I auction as lots 5855 and 5864, still in the wrong original envelopes. Mike was never aware of this. BKW]

BKW

Widok, yes, I knew it was something like that! In fact I used to know Rod when he went to Cleveland area shows, and remember selling him a nice Conder token or two.
Byron

MKR

Anonymous Counterfeit--5101MKR

All,

Following are seven different varieties of "anonymous" coppers I own, which I believe are by the same maker(s) on the basis of stylistic similarities. All are from crude hand-cut dies, so "punch" linkage is irrelevant. Most were also acquired from North American sources.

The first is very low grade, so I've upped the contrast to show more detail. I'm only guessing the date is 1751 (the bust faces left, as 5501MKR)-- only the final digit is visible.

Oval flan, 27 x 28 mm, 146.9 grains.

Mike

MKR

Anonymous Counterfeit--5501MKR

This is the only British-style counterfeit of this date I've seen.

26.5 x 27 mm, 157.4 grains.

Mike

EKS

Hi Mike. To jog your memory, I bought one of this date from you many years ago and it is now in an eastern collection.

Good to see you back.

Ed

Spring 2009

MKR

Thanks Ed, I had forgotten all about it. I also sold a duplicate "Baby Head" a few years ago, which I believe is one of the pieces noted in Byron's list.

Mike

MKR

Anonymous Counterfeit--7321MKR

27 x 27 mm, 117.7 grains.

[Mike]

EKS

Hi all. Check out ebay 3926181673. Sure enough less than a week later one of these is being sold by an English dealer.

Ed (08/19/2004)

[Since publication of the Mike Ringo's Crude American Family of Counterfeits in the Winter, 2007, C4 Newsletter, another half-dozen or so of this particular variety have sold on eBay, all of them by British sellers. BKW]

MKR

Anonymous Counterfeit--7322MKR

This piece and the next two (7323, 7324) have a very ambiguous final digit-- almost like a 7/6/3 amalgam. I've called them 1773's because of their similarity to 7321. I believe Gord may have purchased one of these in a group lot on ebay last year- am I correct?

Small, crude oval planchet, 25 x 26.5 mm, 110.2 grains.

7322 is die pair 1-A.

Mike

MKR

Anonymous Counterfeit--7323MKR

26.5 x 26 mm, 133.8 grains.

Die pair 2-B.

[Mike]

MKR

Anonymous Counterfeit--7324MKR

27 x 26.5 mm, 121.1 grains.

Die pair 2-C.
[Mike]

MKR

Anonymous Counterfeit--8301MKR

A crude 1783-dated counterfeit which I also like to call 25-83A, due to its similarity to V.16-86A, V.CT-86A, and "Miller" 2.3-T.

28 x 29 mm, 95.2 grains.

Mike

BKW

Yep, I agree, Mike, definitely a new Family of hand-cut crude style counterfeits!

I've put them into a Word page so I could compare them and there is no doubt in my mind that the first six came from the same maker. I'm not certain about the seventh though, but will print them all out to the same size for further comparisons.

Have you thought of a name for this Family?

Byron

MKR

I'll confer with Clem this week about a name for the family.
[Mike]

BKW

This one does seem to share some letter style similarities with V.16-86A. I have the Pine Tree, 5/20-21/76 Brown University, Part I catalog that has an image of it that I can compare it to. Not a great image but much better than Betts' drawings!
Byron

Spring 2009

12/04/2004

EKS

Hi Ray. The 14-84A has always been known not to be an Atlee/Machins Mills product. The dentilation is irregular, the reverse shield does not have solid lines, the J instead of 1 in the date, and the flimsy arm holding the staff among other things.

The question that Byron (I think) brought up was whether or not it can be proven that this is a domestic product?

It is still a very neat variety and one that will always be collectible due to the very unusual head style and workmanship.

I have been asked to do a book on the series and one of the issues that I have been tossing around is "do I list the non-Atlee/Machins Mills items or not"? After all it is a Machins book. I could or probably should list this as well as the 10-77A and the 1783's and 1786's as possible or in the case of the 1786's probable American origin even though they are not Atlee/Machins Mills products. Any thoughts as to what direction I should take on this?

Ed

BKW

Hi Ed and Ray,

I guess the provenance issue still causes a lot of concern for some people but I guess what I'm trying to point out is that every theory that has ever been put forth about V.14-84A being an American made counterfeit can be easily countered - review CNL-111. Had it been discovered in England in 1998 instead of 1898 there would be little doubt that it was British. Where one turns up after they were made, in hoards or in the ground, still doesn't tell us where it was made. I'd like to believe it is American, too, but there just isn't anything that convinces me of that, and nothing that tells me the circumstances surrounding its manufacture and distribution was any different than any other counterfeit.

Obviously an experienced die sinker sunk the letters to get them nearly perfectly equal distant from the center point - better than a lot of "Colonial" issues. The die sinker wasn't much of an engraver though and had to improvise for the devices and numbers. I think other counterfeits with similarities to V.14-84A will eventually come to be known but I suppose the only really convincing evidence would be another counterfeit, Conder, or Evasion using the same letter punches. So far nothing American or British matches but I think there is a good chance that the letter punches were used for more than just this one coin. Only time will tell.

Regardless of its origins its still one of the key counterfeits to own, and is popular because of its crude style and the odd date, being the only known counterfeit variety with that particular date. I'd like to think that that is what makes it so popular and not the false assumption that it might be American.

Ed, I think you should include the "controversial" counterfeits in your book, but I'd look for a better word than "possible." It's just as possible that they are British after all. I'm still waiting on Jeff Rock to convince me that the '86s aren't 19th Century Betts fantasy issues, but I have no doubt they were made in America.

Just think, if CNL-111 had never been written we'd still be calling Simians American made!<s>
Byron

MKR

Ed, Byron, and all—

Here are my personal opinions concerning the 1777, 1783, 1784, and 1786 varieties, and whether they should be included in the book:

I was never convinced one way or the other that the 10-77A was a Machins/Atlee/Bailey product, or even American for that matter, until I found the low grade/holed example that was in my sale. The portrait details just jumped right out at me and said "Atlee!" (or something to that effect), especially the leaves in the laurel wreath. Of course, I would readily admit that this is certainly not any sort of scientific proof, it's just the way my brain works.

I have no opinion regarding the 1784, as I have never seen a style or punch match with any other variety of halfpence, evasion, or Conder. It is a neat date, however, and since it has been included in collections as possibly American, I would include it in a book as "anonymous".

The 1783 and 1786 varieties, I have always believed, are contemporary products, and NOT made by Betts-- they just don't have the "look" of other Betts creations. Again, not very scientific, but just my way of looking at things. Betts' concoctions don't show "honest wear", but all known examples of CT 2.3-T / 2.4-U / 2.5-V, Vlack 16-86A, and "25-83A" that I've seen show normal wear and tear, and original patina and/or color. Another point to consider is that ANS holdings include many Betts "dies" (which were usually made by engraving worn copper coins), and none of these look anything like the the 1783 or 1786 types, which appear to me to be struck rather than "squashed".

Here's the paragraph from the COAC talk in which I mentioned the 2.3-T et al:

"Another style of crude counterfeit was included by Betts in his 1886 presentation, and was represented by two pieces, a 1786 Connecticut and a 1786 counterfeit British halfpenny, both struck from dies of inferior workmanship. The Connecticut was given the Miller number 2.3-T by Ned Barnsley in 1963, and the counterfeit halfpenny was later given the designation 16-86A by Robert Vlack. There has since been much confusion among Connecticut specialists, because Barnsley also gave Miller numbers to three other similar examples of these crudely executed Connecticut counterfeits that he knew of, namely 2.4-U, 2.5-V, and 2.6-BRI (which he later changed to 2.6-W). Barnsley himself owned the 2.4-U, which is now in the CNL Foundation, and

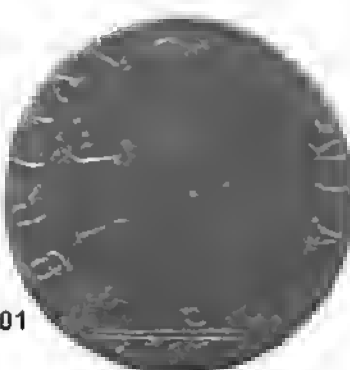
upon close comparison it can be seen that it was struck from the same dies as the 2.3-T. In 1975 he was shown photo plates by Al Hoch that contained two similar examples, which he named 2.5-V and 2.6-BRI, both of which are in the Eric Newman collection. The Newman specimen of the 2.5-V is different from the 2.3-T (Betts 7), in that it has two periods above the head before CONNEC. Upon closer examination, however, it is apparent that this obverse is a reworked 2.3 die- the laurel leaf on the right has become a period, and a new leaf has been added to the left of the existing one. Also, the three reverse (T, U, and V) are all the same die, so the designations of these three varieties should be reconsidered, a project that is currently being undertaken by James Spilman. On the other hand, the 2.6-BRI, which was renamed by Vlack as CT-86A, is definitely a different obverse than the other three. This piece shares its reverse die with the Vlack 16-86A."

Mike

Editor: below, and on the next two pages are photos of some of the coins discussed in the above emails: 16-86A from collection of R. Siboni; 25-83A and 10-77A from collection of S. Martin; other photos supplied by Byron.



5501



BABYHEAD



14-84A



23-T



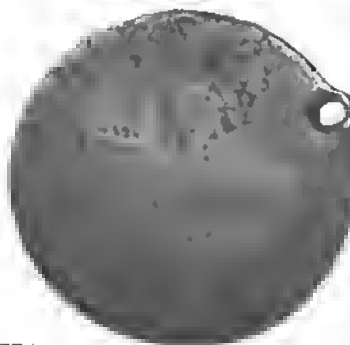
25-83A



16-86A



10-77A





7321



7322



7323



7324



□

****THE FRENCH-AMERICAN CORNER****

AN UNUSUAL HOST/COUNTERSTAMP

(Syd Martin)

The nine denier copper struck for the French colonies in North America during 1721-1722 must have enjoyed long circulation.¹ I recently obtained an example minted in 1721 at Rochelle ("H" mintmark). It has been counterstamped with a "G" that appears in relief within an incuse, 15-ray star. This counterstamp is known to have been adopted in Guadeloupe as a result of an edict issued at Basse-Terre on 22 April 1803. Initially the counterstamp was to be applied to Portuguese moidores, but: "Evidently there was a need of this distinguishing mark on other coins for we find this stamp both on silver and French copper coins."² Note that the "G" counterstamp has been carefully placed to efface the royal monogram.



I've not seen another example of this host/counterstamp combination, so assume it must at least be scarce.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ For a general description of these coins, see:
Zay, E. *Histoire Monétaire des Colonies Françaises*, Paris: Montorier, 1892, pp. 52-57, or
Breen, Walter. *Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins*, New York:Doubleday, 1988, pp.
43-44, 47
- ² Wood, Howland. *The Coinage of the West Indies and the Sou Marqué*, New York:ANS, 1915, p. 12.

DAVID BOWERS WRITES COLUMN ABOUT C4 (Ray Williams)

As with many of you, I subscribe to both of the weekly hobby publications, *Coin World* and *Numismatic News*. There are certain columns I read every week, and I always scan everything for some mention of colonial numismatics. I have been reading *Coin World's* "Colonial Americana" monthly column since it was started by Mike Hodder well over 10 years ago.

Among the weekly columns I always read is one by David Bowers entitled "The Joys of Collecting." I was thrilled when I started reading the June 15 column on page 32 and found that his topic was C4! David says of C4: "...very dynamic and it is likely that all of the members have a great deal of old-fashioned fun." That statement hits the nail on the head! He goes on to compliment Syd Martin and the C4 Newsletter.

Then I about fell off my chair when I read the next few paragraphs! Dave went on to write:

In the interest of sharing information about this specialty, which I have loved since the 1950s, if you send \$25 yearly dues to C4 and are not happy with your membership, let me know and I'll send you a personal refund check for \$20. You risk just \$5.

He then says a few words about colonial coins and the nature of those who collect them. What a statement he made about where his true hobby passion rests! The last time I checked, C4 received 16 membership applications because of this offer and I'm sure there will be more. The online chat group became active talking about this topic. I wrote a letter to the editor of *Coin World* to thank David for the kind words. It appeared in the July 6th issue. I haven't the words to express exactly how I felt but gave it my best try.

Every one of you in C4 should take some pride in what David wrote about us. It is the inherent nature of the colonial coin collector that inspired his words and actions. This is a great hobby!

Dave Bowers:

I want to just take a moment to thank you, not just for what you have done for colonial numismatics but for the hobby in general. Your passion is contagious and your knowledge is always freely shared. Through our hobby, you have made life more enjoyable for countless thousands over more than 50 years. You're the best!

Ray

Francis X. McGrath

1941-2009

Almost thirty-five years, thirty-five YEARS! How does one summarize in a few paragraphs thirty-five years of great friendship? Frank was one of my best friends, especially when it came to numismatics and traveling. I met Frank in the mid 1970's when I got a job at his company, Bayside Engineering. Even before we knew each other had a passion for coins, we hit it off. We had other similar interests - mostly vices ;-).

Once we discovered we were both into coins there was no stopping us. We attended most shows and auctions together, and when traveling was involved we traveled and roomed together. We always had great fun and I'll miss the belly laughs we shared. Frank was so easy going that if and when the activity was in a fun location and my wife, Lynn, and/or the kids wanted to come, we would get connecting rooms.

He was also one heck of a coin collector! It wasn't long after we started coining together when I had to ask... "just what are you collecting"...he said "see this" - it was the Redbook - he said "these," to which I replied "what," and he said "everything." Then he showed me world coin books and said "these too," and paper and tokens and you name it. Frank loved and bought it all. And he was well versed in it all, too. If Frank hadn't seen one it was probably rare.

When I got married in 1980, Frank was there. Shortly after, I left Bayside, Frank, and coin collecting behind. But when I returned Frank was still there. That was the late 80's and it was more of before. Traveling, rooming together, and just having great fun with coins and coin friends.

When I came back he was mostly into US half cents, but Colonials soon followed and beat them out. When the Colonials took over Frank got more serious as a collector; he built some great colonial sets. We learned a lot from each other while we worked on our collections together.

Frank saw that I had almost as much fun selling them as collecting them, so he started getting into the selling end a bit, too. At first it was just the duplicates, but then we began to buy with an eye to sell, and partnered many neat coins. After he retired he started selling off his own personal collections - I'm glad he did, I know he had fun doing it.

I really miss the guy.

Clem (Schettino)

Editor: Frank was killed in an auto crash earlier this year. Most of us have fond memories of Frank, and stories to tell. Clem was one of his best friends, and I asked him to write a bit of a farewell.

****THE SPANISH-AMERICAN CORNER****

CUT SPANISH SILVER

(Ray Williams)

I thought I'd share a few words about the fun I'm having collecting cut Spanish silver. These remnants of our history tell us a story about the economy that mandated their existence. Pictured below are a number of cut Spanish coins found by metal-detectorists – I found the quarter 1723 Pistareen struck at Segovia Spain in Suffolk, VA.

I'm cautious about where I purchase cut coins, as the cutting of coins was sometimes performed in a sinister manner, in which the pieces did not contain the full weight of silver. Washington himself talked about how our economy was affected by crooks making five quarters out of a Spanish dollar. Purchasing from detectorists helps ensure that the coins were cut contemporaneously.

Cut coins are most often found by metal detectors from Maryland to the Carolinas, with a concentration in Virginia. Some, though far less, have been found in the northern colonies. It appears that the economy of the southern colonies was in need of small denomination coinage, and cutting the larger coins into smaller denominations was a convenient and quick solution to the problem.

One last thought... When I found my cut Pistareen, I realized the last person to touch it before me wore a three-cornered hat and had buckles on his shoes. It was also a fairly significant amount of money to lose. So when this coin eventually ends up in someone else's collection, the coin's history will be: Segovia Mint, Spain...Ocean voyage on a masted sailing vessel to VA...The pocket of a Virginia colonist...lost in the ground for a couple centuries...Found by Ray Williams...Residing in Trenton, NJ.



C4 Offers Important Colonial Books

For more information on the following three books, published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4), as well as joining the club, visit the C4 website at www.colonialcoins.org. These books may be ordered directly from: Charles Davis, Numismatic Literature, P.O. Box 547, Wenham, MA 01984; Tel: 978-468-2933; Fax: (978) 468 7893; email: numislit@aol.com.

(1) Jordan, , Lou. "John Hull, The Mint, and The Economics of Massachusetts Coinage," Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2002.

(3) Martin, Sydney. "The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood (1722-1724)," Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2007.

(2) Vlack, Robert, "An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas," Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2004.

THE COPPER COINS OF VERMONT – AVAILABLE AGAIN

As a result of a small number of unbound copies of the Carlotto book having been located, a new binding has been prepared to make the book available after having been out of print for a number of years. The new binding, prepared by the Harcourt Bindery in Boston, is in a fine brown cloth, rounded spine, with the Vermont logo stamped in copper on the front board. Each contains a letterpress bookplate cast by the Firefly Press also in Boston which is numbered and signed by Tony Carlotto. A single page errata is also bound in. While otherwise textually identical to the original, it is a superior binding and adds the cachet of a signed bookplate. While we have begun selling the book to the general public, we have reserved the lowest numbers for C-4 members. The price is \$150.00 plus \$6.00 shipping.

A very small number of unbound copies was also reserved for two styles of numbered and signed leather bindings and are priced at \$550.00 and \$375.00, each plus \$8.00 shipping. Orders for all books should be sent to Charles Davis, Box 547, Wenham Mass 01984

COLONIAL NUMISMATIC LITERATURE SURVEY

After asking fellow members of both the colonial coins and C4 egroups their opinions on what books would be needed to further my study of Spanish American coinage, I've recently added several books to my numismatic library. This prompted *el presidente* to suggest that I conduct a survey of C4 members asking what they consider to be the most important colonial books and auction catalogs in their libraries (or that they have borrowed from our C4 Library). The survey is quite simple, and I expect a high level of participation from our membership.

I've created a special email address to which you can send your responses, and am limiting this survey to 5 books and 5 auction catalogs. Points will be awarded 5-4-3-2-1 in each category. The results of the survey will be posted in the next newsletter with totals included. Although the survey is limited to 5 books and 5 auction catalogs (or sets of associated catalogues; e.g. Ford), the survey results will show more depending on point totals. This survey will not only give new collectors guidance, but will help all of us build a better library. Please have all submissions to me before the end of September.

In a nutshell, send what you consider to be the 5 most important colonial books in order of importance and do the same for auction catalogs. Please send your answers to colonialbooksurvey@verizon.net.

For those members who choose not to use computers, your survey response can be mailed to me at the following address:

Steve Frank


Thank you for your participation!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

C4 is pleased to announce that Mary Sauvain has agreed to become chairperson of a newly formed Public Relations Committee. Mary is ideal for this post, and has already proven effective (e.g., *Coin World*, *Numismatic News* and the *Numismatist*, finding room to run articles about the Hull Mint dedication sponsored in part by C4). For those who are unaware, Mary is a CHARTER MEMBER of C4! She is obviously a lover of colonial (as well as other) coins, and will be a great asset to us. If any member has something they feel to be "PR worthy," please contact Mary. This could be the notice for a local C4 meeting, an honor given one of our members, particularly interesting colonial coin discoveries, or the like.

Mary writes: People can contact me at: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] mesauvain@aol.com. I'd appreciate any information, along
with images, members could send my way.

NEW C4 CONVENTION “COLONIAL HAPPENING” AND EXHIBITS

The "Colonial Happening" for the November, 2009 C4 convention will be the New Jersey Copper Variety: "56N". This is the "common" Camel Head New Jersey that is noted for having been struck on planchets that were previously other coins. Members are encouraged to bring their more interesting specimens showing the undertypes well. A record as to the weight and under type will be taken. Thanks in advance for your contributions.

Also, I will be co-ordinating the member exhibits for the convention this November. If you are thinking about exhibiting, please contact me, and we will discuss number of cases, logistics, etc.

All members are encouraged to exhibit and participate in what should be a very informative "Happening".

Thanks, Eric Hildebrant, ehildebrant@draper.com.

Skyler Liechty, TX
Steve Mizroch, CA
Tom Reed, OH
Michael Riordan, MA
Michael Schmidt, IN
Robert Shippee, CT
David Sundman, NH
Philip Tasker, FL
TOM's, CT
John Trustey, NY
Jeff Noonan, WI
James Donnelly, MN
James Hanson, NY

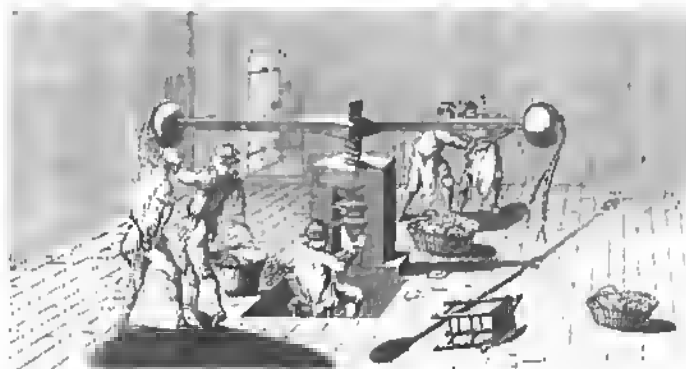
We have suspended accepting Life Membership Applications while the C4 Board seeks advice with respect to restructuring the costs vs. expenses.

The Summer ANA is fast approaching. This year the convention is being held in LA from August 5th to the 9th. C4 will have a meeting open to all on Saturday morning at 9:00. We don't have a room number yet, but please check the program when you arrive. This is an informal meeting and is always fun and informative. Please attend. The bourse floor doesn't open until 10:00 AM anyway, so bring your coffee to the meeting.

46

THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

A Research Journal In Early American Numismatics



Hear ye! Hear ye!

The subscription price of *CNL* has been rolled back.

ANS members: \$25 per year. Non-ANS members: \$40 per year.

Take advantage of this significant price reduction. Contact Megan Fensclau at the ANS: e-mail membership@numismatics.org; telephone (212) 571-4470 Ext. 117, or go to the ANS website at www.numismatics.org/pmwiki/index.php?n=CNL.CNL, to subscribe online or download a subscription form.

CALL FOR AUCTION CONSIGNMENTS

Before you know it, the C4 Convention will be here. NOW is the time to contact Chris McCawley to make arrangements to consign your coins to our annual auction. All consignments should be in before the Summer ANA Convention. See the CVM Advertisement on page 55 of this issue for contact information.

C4 LIBRARY NEWS

(Leo Shane)

Thank You to all for your donations to the C4 Library. Your contributions are appreciated by all C4 members. Below are new items donated to the club since the last C4 Newsletter. They are now available for loan by all C4 members. A complete list of library holdings and instructions on how to borrow them is available at the C4 website www.colonialcoins.org.

The C4 Library needs your old auction catalogs

Now before you pack up your catalogs and send them to me, please read the next two paragraphs entirely. Your Librarian is working on a project to put all catalogs that contain Colonials in an archive in the C4 Library. These can be borrowed by all members for research, provenance searches, etc. Catalogs with major Colonial collections will be held intact. Those with lesser, but at least one Colonial coin, will have the Colonial portion saved and the rest discarded. (The Cover, Title Page, Table of Contents, Colonial Coin Section and any Plates containing Colonials will be saved.) This is necessary to reduce volume of potential catalogs and many feet of shelf space.

I have about 100-150 of my own catalogs that have not been recorded on the Library list. Once I have added these and the new list is posted on the Club Website, I will notify everyone to check what they have against this list. Any catalogs that are not on the list can be sent at that time. I hope to have the list completed and posted before the end of August and will send out a post to the egroups, as well as put a notice in the next *Newsletter*. I will also let you know what shows or meetings I will attend so that you can bring them along if you do not want to mail them. So, don't throw away those old auction catalogs just yet. Keep an eye out for a future notice to donate them to the C4 Library. Thanks!

Books, Manuscripts & Auction Catalogs:

Honeyman, A. Van Doren (editor). *Documents Relating to the Revolutionary History of the State of New Jersey – For the Year 1775*, Somerville, NJ: The Unionist-Gazette, 1923. Donated by Kayla Schlemmer

Stryker, William S. (editor). *Documents Relating to the Revolutionary History of the State of New Jersey – Volume I, 1776-1777*, Trenton, NJ: The John L. Murphy Publishing Co., 1901. Donated by Kayla Schlemmer

Lee, Francis B. (editor). *Documents Relating to the Revolutionary History of the State of New Jersey – Volume II, 1778*, Trenton, NJ: The John L. Murphy Publishing Co., 1903. Donated by Kayla Schlemmer

Nelson, William (editor). *Documents Relating to the Revolutionary History of the State of New Jersey – Volume III, 1779*, Trenton, NJ: The John L. Murphy Publishing, 1906. Donated by Kayla Schlemmer

Nelson, William (editor). *Documents Relating to the Revolutionary History of the State of New Jersey – Volume IV, Nov. 1 1779 – Sept. 30 1780*, Trenton, NJ: The John L. Murphy Publishing Co., 1914. Donated by Kayla Schlemmer

Stacks, *The Schaumburg Sale – Featuring Part 1 of the Michael K. Ringo Collection of Latin American Circulating Counterfeit Coinage*, 29 June 2009. Donated by Stacks

Scott, Kenneth, *Counterfeiting in Colonial Pennsylvania*, New York, NY: The American Numismatic Society, 1955. (ANS Numismatic Notes and Monographs #132). Purchased by the C4 Library

The Library has also purchased a lot of original C4 Newsletters Vol 1-1 to 5-3. This includes the original large format (8.5" X 11") vol. 1 no. 1 to vol. 2 no. 3 *with watermark*. The library previously had only copies of the large format volumes. We now have an original set of all C4 Newsletters.

Suggestions for additions to the library are always appreciated. Please consider donating books, auction catalogs, etc. to the library. Remember, those who are learning about colonials now are those who will be buying your coins later. Thank You, my e-mail is Leo_J_Shane@hotmail.com or write to me at [REDACTED]

CLASSIFIED ADS

Ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows:

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	Copy Size
1 page	\$100	\$150	\$200	\$250	6" x 9"
1/2 page	\$60	\$90	\$120	\$150	6" x 4.5"

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire). If you want to include a photo with your ad there will be an additional \$10 charge. A black and white photo will be needed, but the size can be adjusted. Please send check with your ad. We accept camera-ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 10 lines of text.

NOTICE: The Colonial Coin Collectors Club does not review the ads provided for accuracy, nor does it assess any items offered for sale relative to authenticity, correct descriptions, or the like. C4 is not to be considered a party to any transactions occurring between members based on such ads, and will in no way be responsible to either the buyer or seller.



An interesting selection of 18th century British Tokens

plus some Regal & Colonial Coins and a few Odds and Ends

Many tokens currently listed on our web site; our inventory is updated frequently. Please take a look ~ comments and commentary welcome. Always in the market to buy ~ contact me at your convenience.

Gary Groll CTCC~EAC~C4~ANA

P.O. Box 255 White Hall, Va. 22987;

~ gary@grollcoins.com ~ www.grollcoins.com



Thanks to an ANS grant I am working on a study of circulating coins and currencies of the French and Indian Wars period (1689-1763). I would be very grateful for information on any American and Canadian metal detector finds dating to this period as well as any coins in collections that have find provenances attached to them. Contact: Oliver D. Hoover,

Email: oliver.hoover@sympatico.ca



I am interested in acquiring counterstamped Rosa Americana coins or photos of them. Unusual examples from this series are always of interest, including mis-struck examples. I'm also seeking unusual edge markings on Kentucky pieces. Syd Martin: sfmartin5@comcast.net or [REDACTED]

[illegible]

Wanted: Early American communion tokens (for purchase or trade).
Bob Merchant, [REDACTED]

FOR SALE: CD, Special Edition 5.0, High-resolution digital images of my reference collection of Contemporary Counterfeit British & Irish 1/2d & 1/4d, well over 1,000 different specimens. Organized by Major Type, Date and Families where appropriate, with additional material on Major Errors and Die Breaks...\$55 post paid. Registered buyers, if you'd like, will be added to a distribution list that will receive updates by email with images attached of new specimens of major varieties and Families as they are identified. For more information, see

http://www.eocities.com/comp/erclem/Counterfeits_page3.html

Clem Schettino, [REDACTED] copperclem@comcast.net

Enthusiastic buyers, sellers and students of the 18th Century British Token Series.

We offer tokens for every pocketbook and interest from the rare and spectacular to those used in everyday commerce. Our website and occasional lists will provide you with an ever growing and eclectic selection for your consideration.

Jerry Bobbe: 503-626-1075
ANA Life Member #1059
CTCC #4, EAC #184

Larry Gaye: 503-579-6416
ANA Life Member #5574
CTCC #55

www.vcoins.com/world/cheapsidetokens
P.O. Box 25817, Portland, OR 97298

Email: cheapsidetokenws@ycoins.com
FAX: 503-350-2320

[illegible]

Irish Coins and Paper Money

40 Page Price List includes: Gold Ring Money, Medieval Silver Coinage, Irish Siege Money, Irish Coppers including Gun Money in Silver, Cross Listed Irish Colonial American Coppers, Free State Coinage including Morbiducci Patterns and Proofs, Irish Art Medals, Irish Paper Money.

Del Parker, irishcoins2000@hotmail.com,



HANDCRAFTED SOLID MAHOGANY COIN CABINETS

These are crafted from solid Honduran and/or African mahogany. Cabinets measure approximately 12" x 10.5" x 9" (WxDxH) and contain twelve trays, made from one-half inch thick mahogany. Trays can be configured with either 28 holes measuring 1.25" diameter, or 20 holes at 1.5" diameter. Cabinets can be ordered with any combination of these two tray configurations to equal the twelve tray total per cabinet. Images are available in the PHOTOS section of either the "C4online" or "colonial-coins" Yahoo e-groups, in the COIN CABINET folder. If you do not have access to either e-group, email me and I can send you the images directly. Cabinets are \$325. Estimated postage is about \$25 via Parcel Post or \$35 via Priority Mail. If interested, or for more information, contact me by email at; cmcdon0923@aol.com or via phone at [REDACTED]



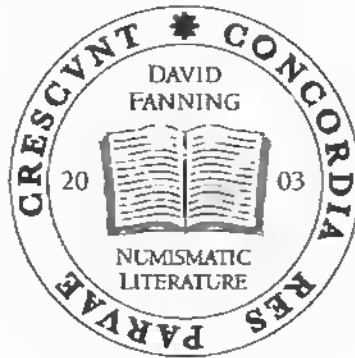
Spencer Peck C4 LM

spencerpeck@comcast.net

Stack's. Massachusetts Historical Society Sale. New York, Oct. 23-24, 1970. card covers, 116 pages. 1025 lots. Illustrated throughout plus 7 plates. Particularly strong on Mass silver & State issues. Adams A. w/pr (\$50 p/p)

Stack's. The Richard Picker Collection of Colonial & Early American Cons. New York, Oct. 24, 1984. card covers, 86 pages, 326 lots. Illustrated throughout plus 2 color plates. Important for Colonial and State issues. w/pr(\$75 p/p)

David F. Fanning Numismatic Literature



David F. Fanning Numismatic Literature deals in numismatic publications and manuscript materials from all times and places. Visit our Web site to see what we have to offer. We publish bimonthly fixed price lists and hold occasional auctions, the next of which is scheduled for **December 3, 2009**.

David F. Fanning Numismatic Literature

PO Box 132422

Columbus, OH 43213

(614) 256-8915

dfanning@columbus.rr.com

www.fanningbooks.com

John Kraljevich **Americana & Numismatics**

Coins

Historical Medals

Early American Currency

Manuscripts, Documents, Maps

Artifacts and Oddments of the 18th Century



Ansonia Station
PO Box 237188
New York, NY
10023-7188

212.595.1792

www.jkamericana.com
jk@jkamericana.com

I know about all that cool stuff you like.



Specialist in
Early American Copper
Colonials
Half Cents • Large Cents
972-668-1575
cmccawley@aol.com

visit our website at
www.earlycents.com

Chris Victor-McCawley
P.O. Box 1510, Frisco, TX 75034



Professional Numismatists Guild

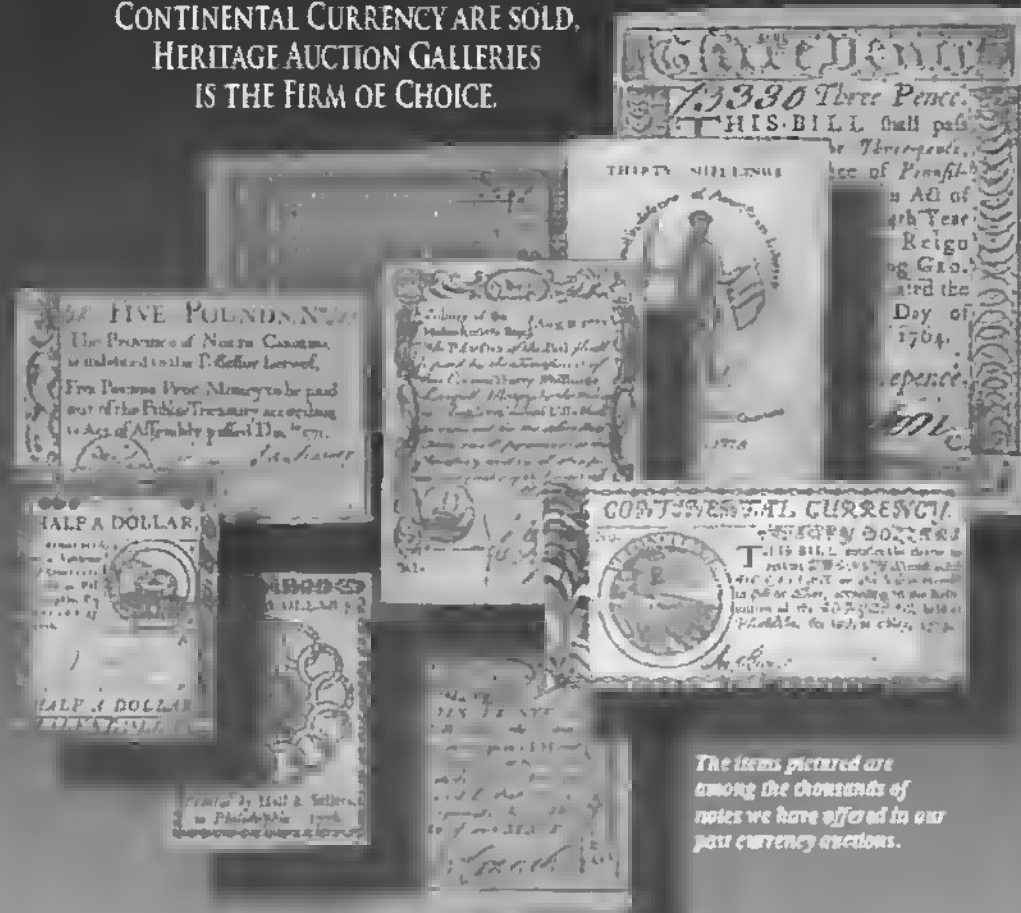
Member
Early American Coppers
(EAC)



MEMBER

HERITAGE SIGNATURE AUCTIONS

WHEN EXCEPTIONAL COLLECTIONS OF COLONIAL AND
CONTINENTAL CURRENCY ARE SOLD,
HERITAGE AUCTION GALLERIES
IS THE FIRM OF CHOICE.



The items pictured are
among the thousands of
notes we have offered to our
past currency auctions.

Our prior auctions have included tens of thousands of exciting notes, but the notes consigned to our upcoming auctions are simply extraordinary. Our September 2009 Long Beach Signature® Auction will feature the Midnight Ride Collection, a magnificent offering of more than 1,000 Continental and Colonial rarities. This is an offering not to be missed. If you are a serious collector of this important material, you will want to watch the catalog being constructed at HA.com/Currency in order to view these notes as early as possible or call to request a catalog.

Receive a free copy of this catalog, or one from
another Heritage category. Register online at
HA.com/OTH17639 or call 866-835-3243
and mention reference OTH17639.
The entire auction will go online
August 14 at HA.com/Currency.

The World's #1 Numismatic Auctioneer

HERITAGE HA.com

Auction Galleries



Annual Sales Exceed \$700 Million • 450,000 Registered Bidder-Members at HA.com
3500 Maple Avenue, 17th Floor • Dallas, Texas 75219-3941
214-528-3500 • FAX: 214-409-1425 e-mail: Consign@HA.com

Heritage Numismatic Auctions, Inc.: CA Bond #RSB2004173; CA Auctioneer Bonds Samuel Foose #RSB2004178,
Robert Karver #RSB2004176; Bob Merrill #RSB2004177; Leo Frese #RSB2004174; Jeff Engelsen #RSB2004180.
NYC Auctioneer licenses: Samuel Foose 0952360; Robert Karver 1096338; Leo Frese 1094963.
This auction subject to a 15% buyer's premium.

Bowers & Merena Your #1 Choice for Early Copper



When it comes time to sell your Colonials, Half Cents and Large Cents, you owe it to yourself to contact Bowers and Merena. Whether your collection is worth several thousand dollars or many multiples of that figure, we can help you realize the highest possible prices in today's market. Bowers and Merena has handled some of the most famous early copper collections ever assembled, including those of the Garretts, Frederick B. Taylor, and Mr. and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb. Many fabulous rarities have crossed our auction block. From Brasher Doubloons to rare state Colonials, Half Cents and Large Cents, we have handled them all!

**CHECK OUR WEBSITE
FOR DATES OF
FUTURE AUCTIONS**



Steve Deeds
President



Debbie McDonald
Consignment Director



Aaron Malone
Consignment Director



Scott Reiter
Director of Consignments

Contact Bowers and Merena President Steve Deeds, Debbie McDonald, Aaron Malone, or Scott Reiter toll free at 800-458-4646 to find out how we can help you get the highest possible prices for your collection.



BOWERS AND MERENA AUCTIONS

—When great collections are sold...Bowers and Merena sells them!—

18061 Fitch, Irvine, CA 92614

TOLL FREE: 800.458.4646

949.253.0916 • Fax: 949.253.4091

email: auction@bowersandmerena.com

www.bowersandmerena.com



Steve Deeds PNG #260

B&M Ad-SHL-C4 09.05.06



Steve Deeds LM #985



COIN RARITIES ONLINE

Museum Quality CoinageSM



**SPECIALIZING IN RARE & HISTORIC
EARLY AMERICAN COINS & RELATED ISSUES
(LIKE THESE, FOR EXAMPLE).**

DAVE WNUCK • JOHN AGRE

WWW.COINRARITIESONLINE.COM

994 N. COLONY RD. #356, WALLINGFORD, CT 06492-3902

1-800-COINS-99